

# ANCESTRAL SYMBOLS

The following symbols are used in the Ancestral Gateway design:



**AYA**  
**Endurance and Resourcefulness**



**BIN NKABI**  
**Peace and Harmony**



**CHI WAR**  
**Mythical Farming Animal**



**DENKYEM**  
**Adaptability**



**DUA**  
**Comb and Virtue**



**JOSHUA TREE**  
**Native Southwestern Plant**



**KNOWLEDGE**  
**Passing of the Torch**



**SANK OFA**  
**Wisdom**



**UDJAT**  
**Protection and Health**



**PLANTS - Growth**  
**SPIRAL - Life-Death-Rebirth**  
**WATER - Essence of Life**

## Doolittle Senior Center

1930 North J Street  
Las Vegas, NV 89106  
(702) 229-6125

Business Hours  
Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



*We Did It Our Way!*

This project was partially funded by  
the Commission for the Las Vegas Centennial.

Ancestral Gateway funded by  
the city of Las Vegas Arts Commission.



## CITY OF LAS VEGAS

Las Vegas City Council  
Mayor Oscar B. Goodman  
Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese, Ward 3  
Councilman Larry Brown, Ward 4  
Councilman Steve Wolfson, Ward 2  
Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, Ward 1  
Councilman Steven D. Ross, Ward 6  
Councilman Ricki Y. Barlow, Ward 5

**City Manager**  
Douglas A. Selby

**Deputy City Managers**  
Betsy Fretwell, Steve Houchens,  
Orlando Sanchez

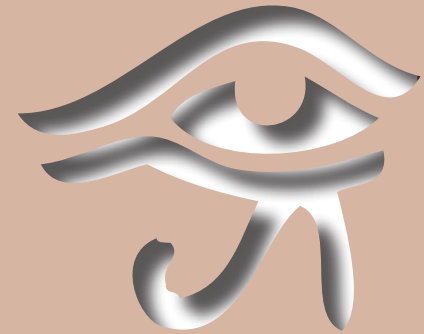
**Office of Government and Community Affairs**  
Director Ted Olivas

**Office of Cultural Affairs**  
Manager: Nancy Deaner  
Assistant Manager: Patricia Harris  
Visual Arts Administrator: Lisa Stamanis  
Project Coordinator: Michael Ogilvie

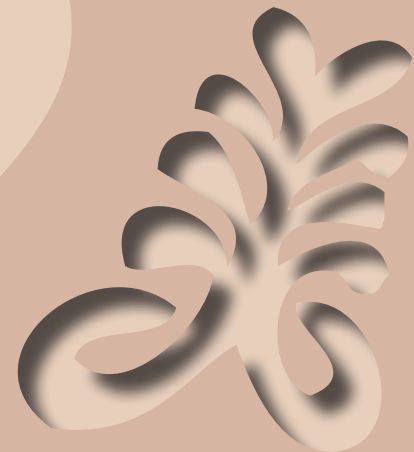
**City of Las Vegas Arts Commission**  
Chair: Joshua Abbey  
First Vice Chair: Robert McCoy  
Second Vice Chair: Maura K. Parrott

**Commissioners**  
Arlene Blut, Nancy Deaner, Patrick Duffy, Stephen Grogan,  
Elizabeth B. Herridge, Vicki Richardson,  
Candy Schneider, Jack Solomon, Barbara Stout

[www.artslasvegas.org](http://www.artslasvegas.org)  
[www.lvartscommission.com](http://www.lvartscommission.com)



*Ancestral Gateway*





# GATEWAYS

A Gateway is the first impression that a community makes and is a point of pride, whether that community is a city, a neighborhood, or a home. The gateway's significance is deeply rooted in the history of the world. The historical concept of a gateway ranges from the Ishtar Gates in Babylon to the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. A gateway announces to the world the importance and pride of the land and people it represents, just as the Roman arches bestowed the pride of architectural, artistic and intellectual accomplishments.

A gateway is a journey's end and a new beginning. It emphasizes the importance of a culture, a life, a society. It memorializes those who in their time created it, as well as those in the future who will continue to celebrate it. A gateway is a historical marker, a point of passage and a celebratory sign to establish the permanence of a people, time and place. It is the merging of culture, history and the future aspirations of a community.

The West Las Vegas community has its own history, culture, challenges, and accomplishments. It also has its own aspirations. The people of West Las Vegas deserve their point of pride. This public memorial should reflect their deep artistic and cultural personality. The West Las Vegas Gateway, located at the entrance to the Doolittle Senior Center, is the most appropriate permanent celebration of the past and future of the West Las Vegas community. It will serve as an educational tool that will inspire and encourage current and future generations, while honoring those who have gone before.



Photo by David Lancaster



Special recognition to  
**A-1 Mechanical**  
**Left of Center Art Gallery**  
**Richardson Construction**  
**Robco Electric**  
**Councilman Ricki Barlow**  
for their generous donations  
and  
**Alice Wilson**  
whose vision and perseverance made  
this project possible.

## STATEMENT

The goal of the Gateway Project is to provide a sculptural art element that reflects the culture of the community and stands as a beacon of the neighborhood's strength and resilience. This sculpture seeks to increase the community's sense of identity and pride, while providing an educational opportunity to share historic symbolism. This project has grown out of community participation and reflects and celebrates the lives that make up the West Las Vegas community.



## Meet the DESIGN TEAM



Left to Right:  
**Sylvester Collier,**  
**Denise Duarte,**  
**Adolfo Gonzalez**  
and **Dayo Adelaja**

**Dayo Adelaja** is an active local artist and art instructor at Kermit Booker Elementary school and the West Las Vegas Arts Center. He has been involved with several mural projects within the city, including the city of Las Vegas' 100 Murals Project. Mr. Adelaja was also recently chosen as a participating artist for the city of Las Vegas' Marble Manor project.

**Sylvester Collier** is a retired art educator and department chair at Green Valley High School. He is a well-known local artist whose artwork is exhibited extensively throughout the Valley, including many private collections. Mr. Collier was involved in designing and creating the West Las Vegas Library Plexi-glass Wall Sculpture. He is the recipient of the Las Vegas Arts Commission's Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Denise R. Duarte** is a Las Vegas sculptor and owner of D'Arte Designs, a custom architectural ceramics studio. She is an active board member of Women of Diversity Productions, a non-profit organization. Ms. Duarte's designs have most recently been chosen for the sidewalk enhancements of the Las Vegas Cultural Corridor Project.

**Adolfo R. Gonzalez** is a prolific local artist and a designer for Young Electric Sign Company. He has been involved with several public art projects within the city and is the artist responsible for designing the new Police Memorial Park Monument. Most recently he has been commissioned to create a 150-ft. mural to be installed in McCarran International Airport.

**Vicki Richardson** has provided Left of Center Art Gallery as a meeting place for the artist team and has acted as facilitator for this project. Mrs. Richardson, an artist and art educator for 28 years, is a recipient of the Governor's Art Award and has been involved in many local public art projects, including the Pioneer Trail.